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No.
7

Love

A CHARLTON PUBLICATION

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BIG CATALOG!

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NAME AGE

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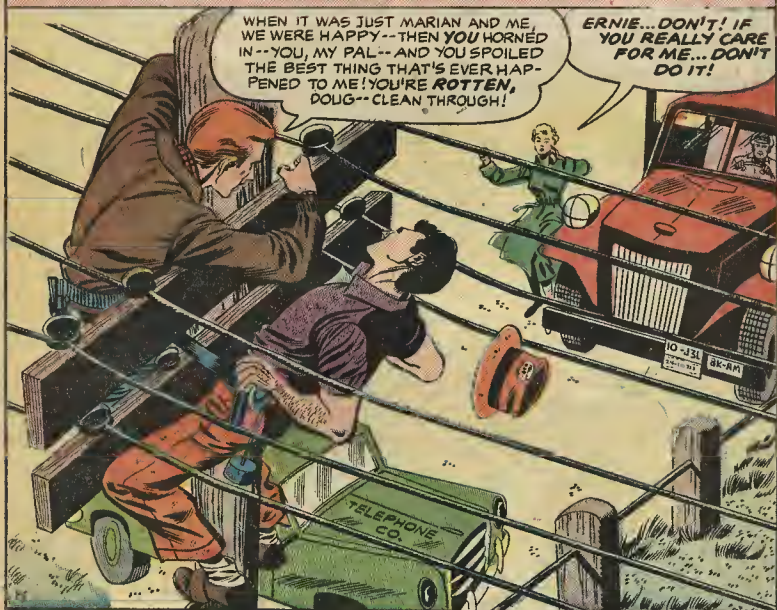
TOWN ZONE NO. STATE

PRINT LAST NAME HERE

Wilson Chem. Co. Dept. 99, Tyrone, Pa. **WE ARE RELIABLE!**

I FOUND THE ONE MAN I COULD MARRY, ONLY TO LOSE HIM WHEN I LOST MY FICKLE HEART TO A NEW LOVE... A DASHING ROMEO, WHOSE OUTLOOK ON LOVE WAS...

DEVIL-MAY-CARE!



WHEN IT WAS JUST MARIAN AND ME WE WERE HAPPY--THEN YOU HORNED IN--YOU, MY PAL--AND YOU SPOILED THE BEST THING THAT'S EVER HAPPENED TO ME! YOU'RE ROTTEN, DOUG--CLEAN THROUGH!

ERNIE...DON'T! IF YOU REALLY CARE FOR ME...DON'T DO IT!

DURING THE TWO YEARS I WORKED AT FRANK'S DINER, I'D HAD A COUPLE OF DOZEN PROPOSALS--ALL OF THEM FROM TRUCK DRIVERS--AND THERE WERE A LOT OF THEM I COULD HAVE GONE FOR--NICE FELLOWS, LIKE PHIL WHITE...

MARIAN, HONEY, HOW ABOUT IT? FOR THE TENTH TIME--WILL YOU MARRY ME?

FOR THE TENTH TIME, PHIL... NO! IT WOULDN'T WORK--

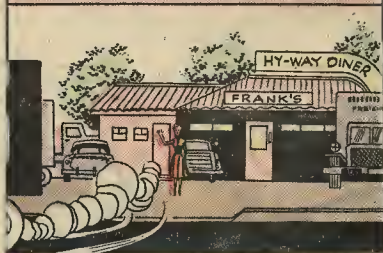


WHY? I'VE GOT A GOOD JOB... I DON'T THINK YOU ENJOY SLINGING HASH! OKAY, MAYBE YOU DON'T LOVE ME NOW... BUT YOU MIGHT LEARN TO CARE A LITTLE!

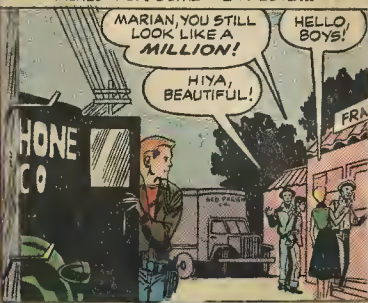
I MIGHT LEARN TO CARE A LOT, PHIL-- IF I LET MYSELF! BUT HAVING A HUSBAND WHO SPENDS MOST OF HIS TIME AWAY, ROLLING ALONG SOME HIGHWAY A THOUSAND MILES FROM HOME, ISN'T MY IDEA OF MARRIAGE!



SURE, I HATED SLINGING HASH, AS PHIL PUT IT-- AND I WANTED NOTHING MORE THAN A NICE HOME OF MY OWN. BUT I ALSO WANTED TO MARRY A MAN WHO WOULD COME HOME TO DINNER EVERY NIGHT! NONE OF THESE TRAILER JOCKEYS WOULD FILL THAT BILL...



SO I WATCHED THEM COME AND GO. I WAITED FOR THE RIGHT ONE TO TURN UP, AND MY HEART ACHED FOR SOMEONE TO LOVE...

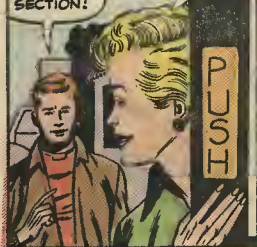


MARIAN-- THAT'S A PRETTY NAME. AND YOU'RE A PRETTY GIRL! I'M GLAD THE PHONE COMPANY ASSIGNED ME TO THIS SECTION!

I HEARD THEY WERE SENDING A COUPLE OF NEW LINEMEN OUT HERE! WELCOME TO FRANK'S DINER... FOOD'S PRETTY GOOD!

THE FOOD DOESN'T HAVE TO BE GOOD... I'D COME HERE JUST TO SEE YOU!

YOU'RE A LINEMAN WITH A REAL LINE!



ERNIE BAKER CAME IN EVERY DAY AFTER THAT--AND I KNEW IT WAS MOSTLY TO SEE ME. HE SEEMED NICE ENOUGH, BUT NOT MY DREAM TYPE BY ANY MEANS--

THEY HAVE A GOOD MOVIE ON IN RIVERTON. WHAT DO YOU SAY WE SEE IT TONIGHT? AND WE CAN STOP IN FOR CHOW MEIN AFTER--

ALL RIGHT, ERNIE-- IT SOUNDS GOOD TO ME!



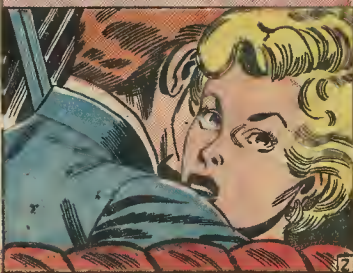
WE HAD MANY DATES TOGETHER, AND I KNEW ERNIE WAS FALLING IN LOVE WITH ME. I KNEW HE'D ASK ME TO MARRY HIM, AND I HAD MY ANSWER READY.

OH, YES, ERNIE-- YES! I WILL MARRY YOU!

I'M THE LUCKIEST MAN IN THE WORLD, MARIAN--AND THE HAPPIEST!



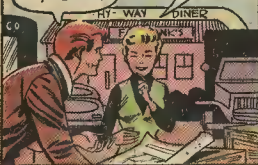
HE TOOK ME IN HIS ARMS, AND I FELT SECURE THERE! LOVE? I WASN'T SURE I LOVED ERNIE--BUT HE COULD GIVE ME THE THINGS I WANTED... A HOME, MOST OF ALL, AND HE'D BE THERE... EVERY NIGHT!



ERNIE WASN'T BEING CHEATED. HE WAS DELIRIOUSLY HAPPY, AND I DID NOTHING TO SPOIL THAT HAPPINESS. I PLANNED FOR OUR FUTURE HOME WITH AS MUCH ENTHUSIASM AS HE HAD HIMSELF---

--AND I'LL USE THE EXTRA ROOM AS A WORKSHOP! I HAVE ALWAYS WANTED TO PUTTER AROUND WITH MACHINERY AND TOOLS! WHAT DO YOU THINK OF IT, DEAR?

IT'S GOING TO BE A **DREAM HOUSE, ERNIE!** HOW SOON CAN THEY HAVE IT READY?



HI-WAY DINER

IN TWO MONTHS, MARIAN-- BUT WE DON'T HAVE TO WAIT TILL THEN TO GET MARRIED! I'M TOO MUCH IN LOVE WITH YOU TO WAIT! LOOK, HONEY-- I BOUGHT THIS FOR YOU!

MY ENGAGEMENT RING! OH, ERNIE-- PUT IT ON MY FINGER, NOW--



HE SLIPPED THE RING ON MY FINGER, AND I WAS MORE THRILLED THAN I HAD EVER BEEN IN MY LIFE!-- AND WHEN OUR LIPS MET AT THAT MOMENT, I SURELY FELT THAT I WAS IN LOVE WITH HIM--

ERNIE-- MY ERNIE...



MY FIRST SUNDAY OFF--TWO WEEKS AFTER THE HOUSE WAS STARTED--ERNIE DROVE ME OUT TO SEE IT. I WAS AS HAPPY AND ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT IT AS HE WAS--

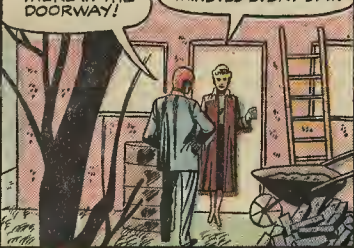
IT'S LIKE SEEING A DREAM GROWING, ERNIE! WHY, IT LOOKS LIKE THEY CAN'T POSSIBLY HAVE SIX MORE WEEKS WORK!

I ASKED THEM TO MAKE IT SOONER IF THEY COULD. EVERY DAY OF WAITING SEEMS LIKE A YEAR TO ME, SWEETHEART!



I JUST WANT TO SEE WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO LOOK LIKE WHEN I COME HOME IN THE EVENING AND SEE YOU STANDING THERE IN THE DOORWAY!

AND I CAN SEE HOW YOU'RE GOING TO LOOK COMING HOME! YOU'LL BE HANDSOME AND WONDERFUL... AND I'LL COUNT THE MINUTES EVERY DAY!



YES, MY WHOLE FUTURE WAS SETTLED... AND FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE, I WAS CONTENTED. EVERYTHING WOULD HAVE GONE ACCORDING TO PLAN, TOO... IF I HADN'T MET SOMEONE ELSE... SOMEONE ERNIE HIMSELF INTRODUCED ME TO...

MARIAN--THIS IS DOUG GORDON! DOUG'S AN OLD PAL OF MINE, HONEY. WE STARTED WITH THE PHONE COMPANY TOGETHER!

THEY TRANSFERRED ME TO THIS ROUTE, TOO, MARIAN--AND IT LOOKS LIKE I'M GOING TO ENJOY BEING OUT HERE!



WHEN WE SHOOK HANDS, DOUG SQUEEZED MY HAND A LITTLE MORE THAN WAS NECESSARY, AND I READ LITTLE THINGS IN HIS EYES--LITTLE SECRETS OF LOVE HIDDEN DEEP WITHIN. EVEN THEN, I TRIED TO FIGHT OFF THE IDEA THAT HE'D EVER BE ANY MORE TO ME THAN JUST A FRIEND OF ERNIE'S...

I'M GLAD YOU'RE GOING TO BE AROUND, DOUG--I-I MEAN, ERNIE AND I WILL ENJOY HAVING YOU WITH US!

WHAT'D I TELL YOU DOUG... QUITE A GIRL, EH?

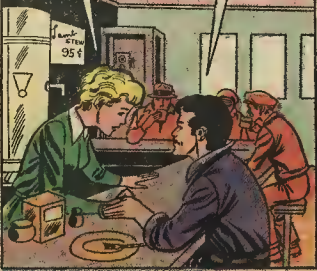
QUITE A GIRL, ERNIE...



ERNIE AND DOUG WERE THE BEST OF FRIENDS-- BUT THAT DIDN'T STOP DOUG FROM TRYING TO DATE ME. I TURNED HIM DOWN AT FIRST, BUT HE HAD A CERTAIN FASCINATION FOR ME THAT I FOUND DIFFICULT TO EXPLAIN!

DON'T, DOUG-- SOMEONE WILL SEE!

WELL, THEN ANSWER ME, MARIAN-- WILL YOU GO OUT WITH ME TONIGHT?



WHAT ABOUT ERNIE? HE'LL WANT TO SEE ME THIS EVENING!

A GIRL SHOULD BE SURE BEFORE SHE MARRIES! I'LL PICK YOU UP AT EIGHT-THIRTY.



I BROKE OFF MY DATE WITH ERNIE FOR THAT EVENING. ALL MY LIFE I'D WAITED FOR SOMEONE LIKE DOUG GOROON! HE HAD EVERYTHING ERNIE HAD, AND MORE-- HE WAS HANDSOME, DASHING, WHEN HE CALLED FOR ME, I MET HIM OUTSIDE-- AND I FLEW INTO HIS ARMS...

BUT I'M WEARING HIS RING! HE'S BUILDING A HOME FOR US!

HE'LL FIND SOME-BODY ELSE... I KNOW HIM, BABY! IT'S NOT LIKE THAT WITH YOU AND ME. WE BELONG TOGETHER. WE'LL NEVER BE HAPPY WITH ANYONE ELSE!

OUR HAPPY MOMENTS TOGETHER BECAME MORE FREQUENT. ERNIE SENSED THAT THERE WAS SOMETHING WRONG, BUT HE NEVER GUESSED THAT DOUG AND I WERE SEEING EACH OTHER--

DOUG... I FEEL SO GUILTY DOING THIS TO HIM!

TO ERNIE? AW, HE'S AN EASY-GOING GUY, ANGEL!



YOU ALWAYS HAVE SOME EXCUSE, LATELY-- ARE YOU GETTING TIRED OF ME, MARIAN?

NO... NO, ERNIE. I JUST HAVEN'T BEEN TOO WELL, LATELY! BUT TONIGHT WILL BE ALL RIGHT. WE CAN TAKE IN A MOVIE IF YOU'D LIKE!



SO I'D GO OUT ON DATES WITH ERNIE... AND I STILL TOLD HIM I LOVED HIM, BUT MY GOOD-NIGHT KISSES WOULDN'T LIE...

HONEY, WHAT'S WRONG?

NOTHING, DEAR... I'M JUST VERY TIRED!

I WANTED TO BE SINCERE, GOODNESS KNOWS! I TRIED... I TRIED NOT TO FALL IN LOVE WITH DOUG! WHEN HE CAME AROUND THE NEXT DAY, I TRIED TO SEND HIM AWAY...

I DON'T THINK WE SHOULD SEE EACH OTHER-- NOT TONIGHT--OR ANYTIME!

NOW WHAT HARM CAN THERE BE IN A LITTLE RIDE IN THE MOONLIGHT? I'LL BE A PERFECT GENTLEMAN!



THERE WAS NOTHING WRONG IN BEING IN LOVE WITH DOUG GORDON-- I COULDN'T HELP THAT. BUT I FELT GUILTY ABOUT NOT TELLING ERNIE. HE WOULD HAVE TO KNOW SOME DAY...

SAY, MARIAN, I THOUGHT THINGS WERE ALL SET FOR YOU AND THAT PHONE COMPANY LINE-MAN, ERNIE BAKER! THEN I SEE YOU OUT DANCING WITH DOUG GORDON, ERNIE'S BUDDY!

I WISH I WAS IN DOUG'S SHOES... STEPPING OUT WITH MARIAN EVERY NIGHT! MAYBE ERNIE DOESN'T KNOW--



IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS WHAT DOUG AND I DO!

SO POOR OLD ERNIE IS BEING PLAYED FOR A CHUMP BY HIS BEST PAL AND HIS GIRL! AREN'T YOU SCARED HE'LL FIND OUT?



I DIDN'T WAIT FOR ERNIE TO FIND OUT! THE NEXT TIME I SAW HIM, I TOLD HIM EXACTLY HOW I FELT-- AND RETURNED THE RING TO HIM!

I'M SORRY, ERNIE!

OH-OH! LOOKS LIKE THERE'S A BRAWL PENDING!

I'LL TAKE CARE OF THIS IN MY OWN WAY!



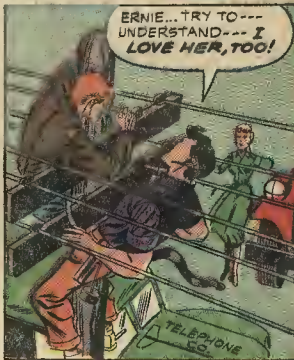
ERNIE TURNED WITHOUT A WORD AND LEFT...

PHIL-- DO YOU REALLY THINK HE'LL GO AFTER DOUG? I WOULDN'T WANT ANYTHING TO HAPPEN TO ERNIE!

TO ERNIE?-- YOU JUST GAVE THE TIP-OFF ON SOMETHING YOU DIDN'T KNOW YOURSELF... YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH ERNIE!



I GOT INTO THE TRUCK CAB WITH PHIL JUST AS ERNIE DROVE OFF THE LOT. WE FOLLOWED, BUT THAT BIG TRAILER TRUCK WAS AGONIZINGLY SLOW GETTING STARTED. BY THE TIME WE REACHED ERNIE AND DOUG, IT WAS TOO LATE...



ERNIE... TRY TO--- UNDERSTAND--- I LOVE HER, TOO!



OH, PHIL-- HE'S FALLING!

THE NIGHTMARISH EVENTS THAT FOLLOWED LEFT ME DAZED. CARS STOPPED ON THE HIGHWAY... THEN THE POLICE CAR, AND LATER THE WAILING OF THE AMBULANCE SIREN--

ERNIE! YOU'VE GOT TO LISTEN-- IT'S NOT HIS FAULT! PLEASE-- LET HIM GO! TAKE ME-- I MADE HIM DO IT!



THEY TOOK ERNIE AND DOUG AWAY,
AND SOON ONLY PHIL AND I
WERE THERE...

MARIAN, YOU'D
BETTER
LET ME
DRIVE YOU
BACK TO THE
DINER--

NO... I-I DON'T
WANT TO SEE
ANYBODY --- I
JUST WANT TO BE
LEFT ALONE!



I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG I
WANDERED... AN HOUR, MAYBE.
I SOMEHOW REACHED OUR
HOUSE... THE HOME ERNIE
WAS BUILDING FOR ME...
BUT NOW I KNEW I WOULD
NEVER LIVE IN IT!



IT WAS AN EMPTY HOUSE... EMPTY
LIKE MY HEART! ONCE THIS WAS
TO BE THE HAVEN OF MY HAP-
PINESS. NOW I COULD ONLY SIT
THERE AND CRY OVER DREAMS
THAT WOULD NEVER COME TRUE!

I'VE WRECKED THREE LIVES --
MAYBE DOUG AND I HAD IT
COMING, BUT ERNIE... POOR
ERNIE... HE DIDN'T
DESERVE THIS!



HOW I HATED MYSELF THEN! HOW I PAID WITH
TORMENT FOR MY LIES AND DECEIT TO ERNIE!
AND THEN, THROUGH MY DAZED MIND, I HAD A
VISION-- I THOUGHT I SAW ERNIE COME INTO
MY HOUSE OF BROKEN DREAMS--

ERNIE!

I WENT TO THE DINER,
SOMEBODY THERE TOLD ME
YOU CAME THIS WAY...

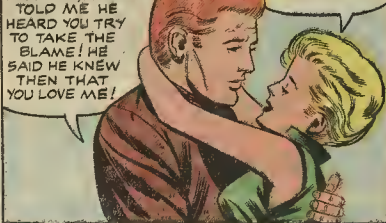


IT WAS REALLY MY ERNIE, AND WE WERE TOGETHER,
AND THROUGH MY SOBS I HEARD HIM EXPLAIN...

THEY HAD ME IN JAIL, THEN THEY
LET ME GO! THEY SAID DOUG
WOULDN'T BRING ANY CHARGE
AGAINST ME! I WENT TO SEE

HIM AT THE
HOSPITAL, AND HE
TOLD ME HE
HEARD YOU TRY
TO TAKE THE
BLAME! HE
SAID HE KNEW
THEN THAT
YOU LOVE ME!

I WAS TO BLAME
DEAR-- BUT I
DO LOVE YOU!
I NEVER
KNEW HOW MUCH
TILL NOW!



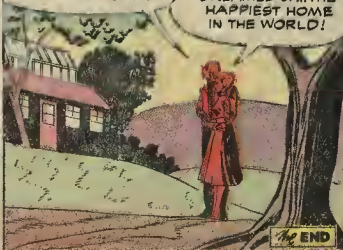
OUR LIPS FOUND
EACH OTHER,
AND FOR
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THAT IT WAS
ERNIE.
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ANYONE
BUT ERNIE! MY
INFATUATION
FOR DOUG
WAS
WASHED
CLEAN OUT
OF MY
HEART
BY THAT
KISS!



I KNEW NOW WHAT REAL HAPPINESS WAS...

IT'LL BE FINISHED IN A
WEEK... THEN YOU'LL BE MRS.
ERNIE BAKER, AND I'LL
CARRY YOU ACROSS
THE THRESHOLD!

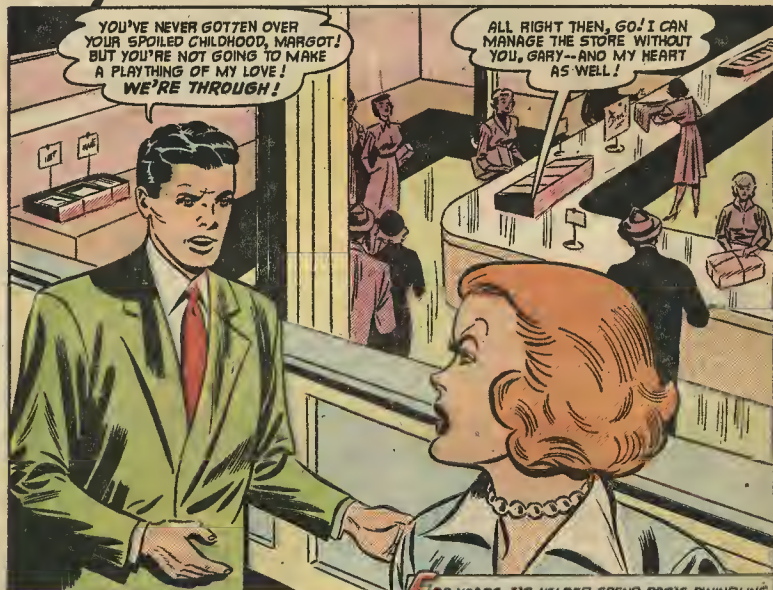
OUR HOME!
DARLING, IT'LL
BE THE KIND OF
A HOME YOU
DREAMED OF... THE
HAPPIEST HOME
IN THE WORLD!



THE END

PAMPERED AND SPOILED BY WEALTH, MARGOT GREW UP TO BE A LOVELY YOUNG WOMAN-- WITH THE THOUGHTLESS, MACGAP HEART OF A CHILD! ALL TOO LATE SHE WAS TO LEARN THAT LIFE IS NOT A GAME FOR CHILDREN... AND THAT SHE WHO GAMBLERS WITH LOVE MUST BE PREPARED TO LOSE!

My Errant Heart



YOU'VE NEVER GOTTEN OVER YOUR SPOILED CHILDHOOD, MARGOT! BUT YOU'RE NOT GOING TO MAKE A PLAYTHING OF MY LOVE! WE'RE THROUGH!

ALL RIGHT THEN, GO! I CAN MANAGE THE STORE WITHOUT YOU, GARY--AND MY HEART AS WELL!

FOR YEARS I'VE HELPED SPEND DAD'S DWINDLING FORTUNE WITH FOOLISH EXTRAVAGANCE! NOW, AFTER HIS DEATH THERE WAS NOTHING LEFT BUT THE STORE--MORTGAGED TO THE HILT! AND THIS RUGGEDLY HANDSOME MAN BEFORE ME WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO COULD HELP ME SALVAGE ANYTHING FROM THE RUINS!

UNIL THAT DAY, GARY REAGAN HAD BEEN JUST A NAME TO ME--THE MAN WHO MANAGED 'DOANE'S', THE HUGE DEPARTMENT STORE THAT WAS MY FAMILY'S SOURCE OF INCOME! NOW I FOUND MYSELF IN HIS OFFICE TRYING DESPERATELY TO IMPRESS HIM!

MR. REAGAN, YOU'VE HEARD A LOT ABOUT ME--MARGOT DOANE, THE SPOILED, RICH LITTLE GIRL, USED TO HAVING HER OWN WAY--AND IT'S ALL TRUE! BUT THINGS WILL BE DIFFERENT NOW!

THEY'LL HAVE TO BE, FROM WHAT I UNDERSTAND OF YOUR FATHER'S FINANCIAL STATUS WHEN HE DIED!

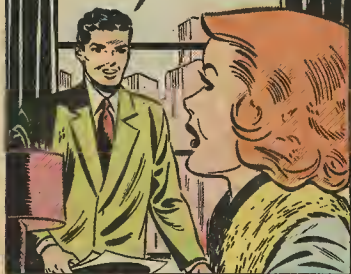
I'M READY TO TAKE DAD'S PLACE IN THE BUSINESS! I KNOW IT MEANS HARD WORK AND DETERMINATION, BUT SAYING THE STORE MEANS EVERYTHING TO ME!

DOANE'S MEANS A LOT TO ME, TOO! MY WHOLE CAREER IS WRAPPED UP IN THIS PLACE! I WORKED MY WAY UP FROM A STOCK CLERK! YOUR DAD WAS LIKE A FATHER TO ME!



ALL RIGHT, MISS DOANE, I'LL HELP YOU MAKE A GO OF IT--IF YOU'RE SURE YOU'RE READY TO BUCKLE DOWN AND LEARN THE BUSINESS FROM THE GROUND UP!

I'M READY, MR. REAGAN!



ON THE FOLLOWING WEEKS I FOUND GARY REAGAN A HARD TASKMASTER, BUT A PATIENT AND UNDERSTANDING ONE! BEFORE LONG WE WERE FAST FRIENDS!

THERE YOU ARE, MARGOT, THEY TOLD ME I'D FIND YOU HELPING OUT IN THE BOOK DEPARTMENT!

THEY WERE SHORT HANDED TODAY! I SAID I WAS GOING TO LEARN THE BUSINESS FROM THE GROUND UP, REMEMBER?



I'M GLAD YOU'RE SERIOUS ABOUT IT! BY THE WAY, I'VE JUST READ YOUR SUGGESTIONS ABOUT OUR BARGAIN BASEMENT! THEY'RE NOT BAD AT ALL! WE'LL TALK ABOUT THEM TONIGHT AFTER HOURS!

ALL RIGHT, GARY, I'LL BE THERE!



I RETURNED TO MY WORK, MY HEART GLOWING WITH GLAD PREMONITION AT THE ADMIRATION IN GARY'S EYES! THOSE 'AFTER HOURS' CONFERENCES WERE COMING WITH A STRANGE REGULARITY! THEN ONE EVENING IT HAPPENED! WE WERE WORKING LATE OVER A SALES REPORT AND...

I THINK WE'VE HAD ENOUGH OF BOOKS AND FIGURES FOR ONE DAY, GARY! I'M IN FAVOR OF CLOSING UP SHOP!

IN ANOTHER HOUR WE COULD FINISH THE REPORT! IT'S ONLY SEVEN THIRTY!



SEVEN THIRTY--HMM! IF I HURRIED HOME TO ORESS, I'D STILL HAVE TIME TO MAKE THE LATE SHOW AT THE PALM GROVE--IF I HAD AN ESCORT!

WELL I...



THE PALM GROVE IS HARDLY THE PLACE FOR A YOUNG LADY WHO'S SWORN OFF GOOD TIMES--BUT YOU'VE BEEN WORKING HARD LATELY, AND A LITTLE RELAXATION NEVER HURT ANYONE!

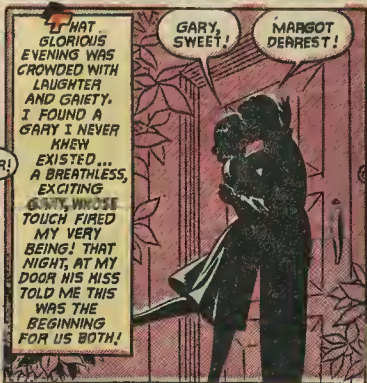
OH GARY, YOU'RE A DEAR!



WHAT GLORIOUS EVENING WAS CROWDED WITH LAUGHTER AND GAITY. I FOUND A GARY I NEVER KNEW EXISTED... A BREATHLESS, EXCITING GARY, WHOSE TOUCH FIRED MY VERY BEING! THAT NIGHT, AT MY DOOR HIS KISS TOLD ME THIS WAS THE BEGINNING FOR US BOTH!

GARY, SWEET!

MARGOT DEAREST!



MARGOT, THERE'S A LOT MORE I WANT TO SAY, BUT I'D RATHER SAVE IT! WE'LL TALK AGAIN, SERIOUSLY, WHEN THE STORE IS ON ITS FEET!

I UNDERSTAND, DARLING! BUT THAT MISS TOLD MY HEART ALL IT WANTS TO KNOW!

WORK AT THE STORE BECAME A PLEASURE NOW! AND EVEN THE MOST MONOTONOUS TASKS WERE EASY WHEN GARY WAS NEAR! BUT MORE THAN ONCE I FOUND IT DIFFICULT TO CONTROL MY UNDISCIPLINED LITTLE HEART!

WHAT'S MORE IMPORTANT THAN THIS, DARLING?

MARGOT!

OH, GARY, ABOUT THIS SALES REPORT... COULD I SEE YOU NOW?

I HAVE A BUYER'S CONFERENCE SCHEDULED-- BUT IF IT'S IMPORTANT... STEP INTO MY OFFICE!

AND NOW, YOU LITTLE MINX, WE'LL SAVE THE REST OF IT FOR TONIGHT! RIGHT NOW I'VE GOT THE BUYER'S CONFERENCE TO ATTEND!

GARY, WAIT! I--

GARY WAS RIGHT, OF COURSE! THAT WAS NEITHER THE TIME OR PLACE FOR LOVE! BUT STILL I RESENTED HIS ATTITUDE... ALL MY LIFE I'D HAD MY WAY!

HE CAN'T TREAT ME LIKE THAT! I WON'T HAVE IT! OH, IF I COULD ONLY TEACH HIM A LESSON!

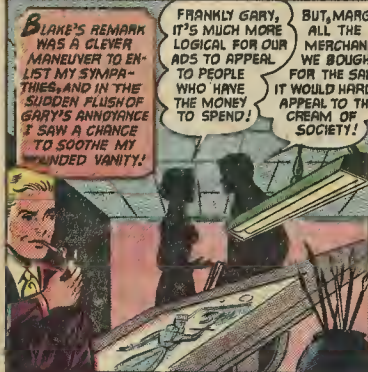
MY CHANCE TO SHOW DISPLEASURE CAME SOONER THAN I EXPECTED! IT WAS THE NEXT DAY WHEN I WAS PRESENT AT A CONFERENCE BETWEEN GARY AND KEN BLAKE, THE ATTRACTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT!

BLAKE, YOU'VE GOT THE WRONG SLANT! WE'RE TRYING TO ATTRACT THE LOWER INCOME GROUP TO OUR SALE, BUT YOUR ADS CATER TO THE UPPERCRUST!

BUT THAT'S WHERE THE MONEY IS, REAGAN! DOANE'S ALWAYS CATERED TO THE CARRIAGE TRADE!

PERHAPS THAT'S WHY THE STORE KEPT LOSING MONEY! ANYHOW, BLAKE, YOU'RE NOT THE ONE WHO MAKES THE POLICY HERE!

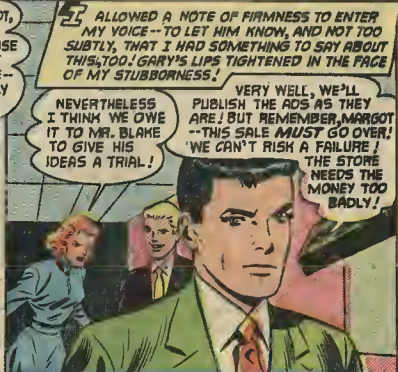
I DON'T WANT TO ARGUE, REAGAN! WHY NOT LEAVE IT TO MISS DOANE'S JUDGMENT? I'M SURE SHE'LL UNDERSTAND MY VIEW-POINT!



BLAKE'S REMARK WAS A CLEVER MANEUVER TO ENLIST MY SYMPATHIES, AND IN THE SUDDEN FLUSH OF GARY'S ANNOYANCE I SAW A CHANCE TO SOOTHE MY WOUNDED VANITY!

FRANKLY GARY, IT'S MUCH MORE LOGICAL FOR OUR ADS TO APPEAL TO PEOPLE WHO HAVE THE MONEY TO SPEND!

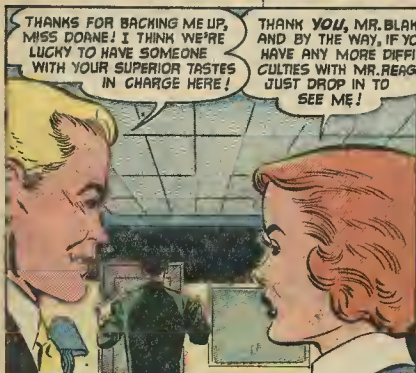
BUT, MARGOT, ALL THE MERCHANDISE WE BOUGHT FOR THE SALE-- IT WOULD HARDLY APPEAL TO THE CREAM OF SOCIETY!



I ALLOWED A NOTE OF FIRMNESS TO ENTER MY VOICE-- TO LET HIM KNOW, AND NOT TOO SUBTLY, THAT I HAD SOMETHING TO SAY ABOUT THIS, TOO! GARY'S LIPS TIGHTENED IN THE FACE OF MY STUBBORNNESS!

NEVERTHELESS I THINK WE OWE IT TO MR. BLAKE TO GIVE HIS IDEAS A TRIAL!

VERY WELL, WE'LL PUBLISH THE ADS AS THEY ARE! BUT REMEMBER, MARGOT-- THIS SALE **MUST** GO OVER! WE CAN'T RISK A FAILURE! THE STORE NEEDS THE MONEY TOO BADLY!

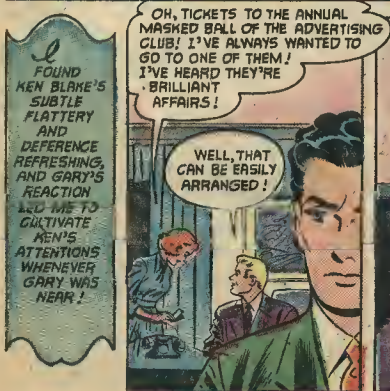


THANKS FOR BACKING ME UP, MISS DOANE! I THINK WE'RE LUCKY TO HAVE SOMEONE WITH YOUR SUPERIOR TASTES IN CHARGE HERE!

THANK YOU, MR. BLAKE! AND BY THE WAY, IF YOU HAVE ANY MORE DIFFICULTIES WITH MR. REAGAN JUST DROP IN TO SEE ME!



WELL, MR. HARD-TO-GET REAGAN-- IT LOOKS AS IF I'VE FOUND A WAY TO GET UNDER YOUR SKIN!



I FOUND KEN BLAKE'S SUBTLE FLATTERY AND DEFERENCE REFRESHING, AND GARY'S REACTION LED ME TO CULTIVATE KEN'S ATTENTIONS WHENEVER GARY WAS NEAR!

OH, TICKETS TO THE ANNUAL MASKED BALL OF THE ADVERTISING CLUB! I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO GO TO ONE OF THEM! I'VE HEARD THEY'RE BRILLIANT AFFAIRS!

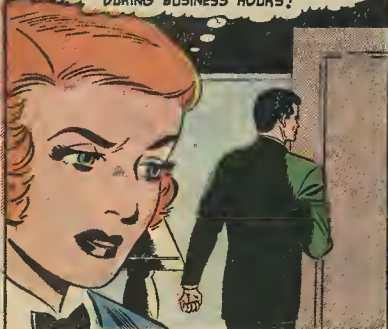
WELL, THAT CAN BE EASILY ARRANGED!



I'LL BE GLAD TO TAKE YOU, MARGOT!

THANK YOU, KEN! I'LL BE DELIGHTED TO GO!

POOR GARY! I'VE GOT HIM BURNING UP! AT LEAST I'VE DISCOVERED HE CAN BE JEALOUS DURING BUSINESS HOURS!



MY HEART STILL SICKENS AT THE PETTY FEELING OF TRIUMPH I FELT THEN! I WAS FEELING SUPERBLY CLEVER AND GAY WHEN I WENT TO THE BALL WITH KEN THAT NEXT WEEK END! AS I DANCED, MY THOUGHTS WERE BACK IN THOSE MADCAP TIMES WERE THE VERY PURPOSE OF MY EXISTENCE!

YOU DANCE BEAUTIFULLY, MARGOT!

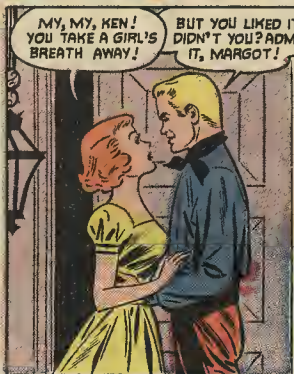
DO I? OH, IT'S AGES SINCE I'VE HAD SUCH A GOOD TIME, KEN!



THAT NIGHT AT MY DOOR IT WAS KEN'S ARMS THAT WERE AROUND ME! AND THOUGH I TOLD MYSELF IT MEANT NOTHING, HIS KISS WAS A DARING CHALLENGE THAT SENT MY BLOOD RACING!

MY, MY, KEN! YOU TAKE A GIRL'S BREATH AWAY!

BUT YOU LIKED IT, DIDN'T YOU? ADMIT IT, MARGOT!



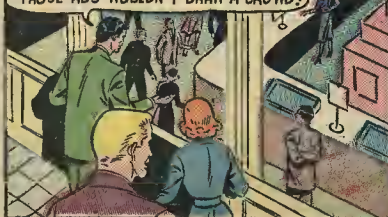
WELL, IT WAS NICE! AND NOW I THINK WE'D BETTER SAY GOOD NIGHT!

ALL RIGHT, MARGOT! BUT THERE'LL BE OTHER DATES--AND OTHER KISSES!



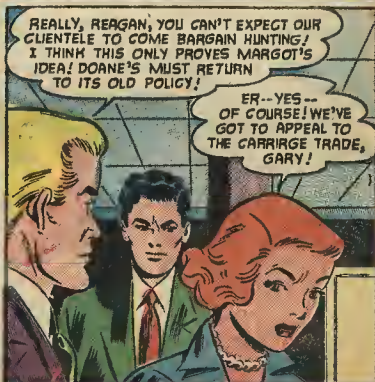
YES, KEN'S OBVIOUS FLATTERY AND OPEN ADMIRATION WENT TO MY HEAD LIKE WINE! BUT THAT WEEK MY THOUGHTS TURNED ABRUPTLY TO A MORE SERIOUS AFFAIR, AS THE SALE FOR WHICH KEN PLANNED THE ADS PROVED A FIASCO!

A HUNDRED THOUSAND INVESTED IN MERCHANDISE BOUGHT ESPECIALLY FOR THIS SALE AND A PITIFUL CUSTOMER RESPONSE! I WARNED YOU, MARGOT, THOSE ADS WOULDN'T DRAW A CROWD!

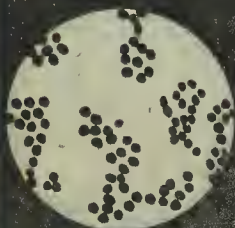


REALLY, REAGAN, YOU CAN'T EXPECT OUR CLIENTELE TO COME BARGAIN HUNTING! I THINK THIS ONLY PROVES MARGOT'S IDEA! DOANE'S MUST RETURN TO ITS OLD POLICY!

ER--YES--OF COURSE! WE'VE GOT TO APPEAL TO THE CARRIAGE TRADE, GARY!



KILL THESE HAIR-DESTROYING GERMS



Staphylococcus albus



Corynebacterium acnes



Pityrosporum ovale

SAVE YOUR HAIR

Beware of your itchy scalp, hair loss, dandruff, head scales, unpleasant head odors! Nature may be warning you of approaching baldness. Heed Nature's warning! Treat your scalp to scientifically prepared Ward's Formula.

Millions of trouble-breeding bacteria, living on your sick scalp (see above) are killed on contact. Ward's Formula kills not one, but *all 3* types of these destructive scalp germs now recognized by many medical authorities as a significant cause of baldness. Kill these germs—don't risk letting them kill your hair growth.

ENJOY THESE 5 BENEFITS IMMEDIATELY

1. Kills germs that retard normal hair growth—*on contact*
2. Removes ugly infectious dandruff—*fast*
3. Brings hair-nourishing blood to scalp—*quickly*
4. Stops annoying scalp itch and burn—*instantly*
5. Starts wonderful self-massaging action—*within 3 seconds*

Once you're bald, that's *it*, friends! There's nothing you can do. Your hair is gone forever. So are your chances of getting it back. But Ward's Formula, used as directed, keeps your sick scalp free of itchy dandruff, seborrhea, and stops the hair loss they cause. Almost at once your hair looks thicker, more attractive and alive.

We don't ask you to believe *us*. Thousands of men and women—first skeptical just as you are—have *proved* what we say. Here's our **GUARANTEE**. Try Ward's Formula in your own home for only 10 days. You must enjoy *all* the benefits we claim—or we return not only the price you pay—but **DOUBLE YOUR MONEY BACK** on return of unused portion. You are the judge. Send no money. Pay postman only \$2 plus a few cents postage, or save postage by sending \$2 with order. **ACT NOW TO SAVE YOUR HAIR. SEND COUPON TODAY!**

WARD LABORATORIES, Dept. 6607-B

19 New 44th St. New York 36, N. Y.

☐ I enclose \$2.00, send prepaid

☐ Send C.O.D., I will pay \$2.00 plus postage

Name

Address

City Zone State

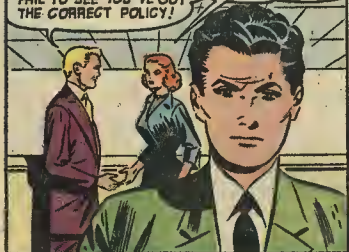
DOUBLE MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

GARY TURNED AWAY, ANGER AND RESENTMENT GATHERING IN HIS EYES; ALMOST EAGERLY I LISTENED TO KEN'S SOOTHING WORDS!

HE'S BEING CHILDISH AND STUBBORN, MARGOT! ONLY A BLIND MAN COULD FAIL TO SEE YOU'VE GOT THE CORRECT POLICY!

BUT THE SALE, KEN! WE'VE LOST A LOT OF MONEY AND...

OH, DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT! I'VE GOT A FEW IDEAS THAT ARE SURE-FIRE! WE'LL RECOUP EVERY CENT OF IT--AND MORE! COME INTO MY OFFICE AND I'LL SHOW YOU!



I KNEW I WAS WRONG! I WANTED TO GO TO GARY AND ADMIT IT, BUT I STILL HAD MY STUBBORN PRIDE, THE HERITAGE OF A PAMPERED CHILDHOOD...AND SO, IN THE WEEKS THAT FOLLOWED, I KEPT TURNING TO KEN FOR ADVICE, LETTING HIM GUIDE ME INTO OTHER FOOLISH VENTURES!

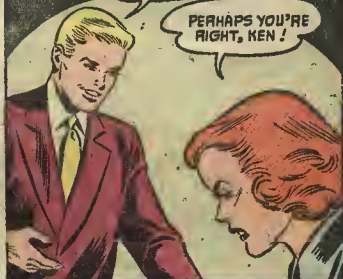
AND HERE ARE MY SKETCHES FOR OUR OWN CERAMICS SHOPPE! BY THE WAY, I'VE TALKED THE METRO IMPORTING HOUSE INTO LETTING US BE THEIR SOLE OUTLET IN THE CITY!

METRO? BUT THEY SELL THE MOST EXPENSIVE POTTERY IN THE FIELD!



BUT OF COURSE, MARGOT! WITH OUR REPUTATION, DOANE'S SHOULD HANDLE ONLY THE FINEST MOST EXCLUSIVE PRODUCTS!

PERHAPS YOU'RE RIGHT, KEN!



AND NOW IN MY HEADSTRONG THOUGHTLESSNESS, THERE SEEMED TO BE NO TURNING BACK! AGAIN AND AGAIN I IGNORED GARY'S SUPERIOR JUDGMENT AND EACH TIME I SANK DEEPER INTO A MORASS OF MY OWN MAKING! THE END WAS INEVITABLE!

THIS PROVES ONLY ONE THING, GARY--YOU'RE JEALOUS OF KEN, BECAUSE HIS IDEAS ARE MORE LOGICAL THAN YOURS! JEALOUS BECAUSE HE--HE PAYS MORE ATTENTION TO ME THAN YOU DO!

IF THAT'S YOUR OPINION, YOU'LL HAVE MY RESIGNATION TONIGHT! BUT THERE'S ONE THING I WANT TO SAY!

WHEN YOU ASKED ME TO HELP YOU SAVE THE STORE YOU SAID YOU WERE NO LONGER A SPOILED LITTLE BRAT! YOU SAID YOU WERE SERIOUS, GROWN-UP--AND I BELIEVED YOU! BUT I WAS WRONG!

WE'RE GOING DEEPER INTO THE RED EVERY DAY! OUR SALES ARE THE LOWEST IN YEARS, AND IT'S ALL DUE TO THE IDEAS BLAKE HAS TALKED YOU INTO INTRODUCING!

SO NOW YOU'RE GOING TO BLAME EVERYTHING ON KEN!



YOU'RE JUST THE SAME SELF-WILLED, CAPRICIOUS LITTLE FOOL I ALWAYS HEARD YOU WERE, ONLY NOW YOU HAVE OTHER PLAYTHINGS TO TOY WITH... THE STORE FOR ONE THING!



BUT I WON'T LET YOU MAKE A PLAYTHING OF MY LOVE! I'M SICK OF THE INFANTILE WAY YOU'VE TRIED TO MAKE ME JEALOUS OF KEN BLAKE! I WAS A FOOL TO LET IT DRAG THIS LONG, BUT NOW WE'RE THROUGH!



GARY, WAIT! LISTEN!

THE SHOCK OF IT WAS TOO MUCH TO GRASP AT ONCE! I TOLD MYSELF I COULD MANAGE THE STORE WITHOUT GARY AND MY HEART AS WELL! BUT IN THE HOURS THAT FOLLOWED, THE ACHE WITHIN ME TOLD ME WHAT I'D LOST!



THANK YOU, KEN, I KNOW I CAN RELY ON YOU!

IT'S THE BEST THING THAT COULD HAVE HAPPENED, MARGOT! HE WAS HOLDING YOU BACK! WE'LL MANAGE WITH-OUT HIM! I'LL BE RIGHT BESIDE YOU EVERY MINUTE!



NOT THANKS! I DON'T WANT THANKS FROM YOU, MARGOT!

NO, KEN!
NO--



BUT THOUGH I PROTESTED I ACCEPTED HIS KISSES, HOPING THEY'D HELP ME FORGET THE ACHING VOID WITHIN! IN DAYS THAT PASSED I BURIED MYSELF IN WORK, BUT AFFAIRS KEPT GOING FROM BAD TO WORSE! KEN WAS PRACTICALLY STORE MANAGER NOW, BUT HE WAS FAR LESS HELP THAN I'D NOPE!

KEN, THESE BILLS FROM METRO IMPORTING-- THEY'RE GROWING BIGGER EVERY DAY! OUR SALES JUST DON'T WARRANT BUYING ANY MORE STOCK!

BUT YOU KNOW MY PLANS, MARGOT! I WANTED TO MAKE OUR CERAMICS SHOP THE BIGGEST THING OF ITS KIND!



HERE--LOOK AT THIS SPREAD THEY GAVE US IN SWANK ILLUSTRATED! PUBLICITY LIKE THAT WILL MAKE ODAANE'S THE BIGGEST NAME IN THE RETAIL FIELD!

PERHAPS, KEN, BUT I WISH YOU'D FIND SOME WAY TO IMPROVE BUSINESS! MEETING OUR BANK PAYMENTS IS BECOMING MORE OF A STRUGGLE EACH WEEK!



AND NOW KEN BEGAN NEGLECTING HIS RESPONSIBILITY! SOON I FOUND OUT NOW UNDEPENDABLE HE COULD BE!

NOW, MARGOT, WITH BUSINESS FALLING OFF THE WAY IT IS, COMING IN AT ELEVEN ISN'T SO SERIOUS! WE'RE SLOW!

BUT, KEN, IT'S A BAD EX-AMPLE FOR THE EMPLOYEES! BESIDES, I DEPEND ON YOU--NEED YOU!



AND I NEED YOU, TOO, MARGOT!
OH, DARLING, I CAN'T BEAR
QUARRELING WITH YOU!

KEN!
OH KEN!

AND SO
HE BOUGHT
HIMSELF OFF
WITH KISSES!
AND IN HIS
ARMS I TRIED
TO FORGET THE
'DESOLATE
LONGING IN
MY HEART!
THEN ONE DAY,
THE TATTERED
REMNANTS OF
MY SHABBY
LITTLE WORLD
FELL TO PIECES,
AS THE BAAH
EXAMINERS
CAME TO
SEE ME!

I'M SURE YOU UNDERSTAND OUR VIEW-
POINT, MISS DOANE! THE STORE OWES
US FAR MORE THAN IT CAN PAY! WE
CAN'T DELAY ACTION FOR MORE
THAN ANOTHER MONTH!

A MONTH?
I'VE GOT TO DO
SOMETHING! I'LL
SPEAK TO KEN!

F RANTICALLY I
SEARCHED THROUGH
THE STORE, BUT WHEN
AT LAST I FOUND HIM
--IT WAS IN THE ARMS
OF ONE OF OUR
PRETTIER SALESGIRLS!

MISS DOANE!

PLEASE RETURN
TO YOUR COUNTER,
MISS GIBBONS!
MR. BLAKE AND I
HAVE SOMETHING
TO DISCUSS!

DON'T BOTHER CRYING ON MY SHOULDER,
MARGOT! I ALREADY KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENED!
AS A MATTER OF FACT I HAVE ANOTHER JOB
LINEO UP! A NICE COZY SPOT
WITH METRO IMPORTING!

WH-WHAT?

METRO! SO THAT'S
WHY YOU WERE
BUYING UP ALL
THOSE CERAMICS!
YOU WERE BUSY
FEATHERING YOUR
OWN NEST!

YOU CAN FILL IN THE
DETAILS FOR YOURSELF,
MARGOT! I'VE GOT TO
GO NOW! 'BYE,
SWEETHEART!

F OR A LONG MOMENT
I STOOD THERE, THE LAST
OF MY STRENGTH
EBBING FROM ME, AND
THEN SUDDENLY, I WAS
QUAKING WITH REMORSE,
WITH HOPELESS LONGING
AND HEARTBREAK!

SOB... OH GARY!
GARY DARLING!
...SOB... HOW I
NEED YOU NOW!

BUT SOMEHOW, EVEN IN MY DESPAIR, I FOUND THE COURAGE TO GO ON! I SOLD MY HOME, SAHK THE LAST BIT OF MY SAVINGS INTO THE STORE, CHANGED THE POLICY-- BUT IT WAS ALL OVER IN A FEW WEEKS!

I'M SORRY, MISS DOANE! YOU'VE DONE YOUR LEVEL BEST BUT IT'S HOPELESS! THE STATE LAWS FORCE US TO TAKE OVER!

I REALIZE THE MATTER IS OUT OF YOUR HANDS, BUT THE THOUGHT OF CLOSING THE STORE...

YOU'RE WRONG, MISS DOANE! THE STORE'S NOT BEING CLOSED! WE'VE RECEIVED AN OFFER FROM A SYNOGATE WHICH PLANS TO KEEP IT IN OPERATION-- WITH BIG CHANGES!

OH, I'M SO GLAD! I'LL COOPERATE WITH THE NEW OWNERS IN EVERY WAY!

IT WAS A WEEK LATER THAT THE SYNOGATE TOOK OVER! BUT WHEN THE NEW MANAGER WALKED IN I STOOD THERE STUNNED WITH SURPRISE!

GARY!

HELLO, MARGOT!

AND THEN SUDDENLY THE STRAIN OF THE PAST FEW MONTHS WAS ALMOST TOO MUCH! I BIT MY LIP TO HOLD BACK THE TEARS!

I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANYTHING LEFT FOR ME TO DO

HERE! MY ACCOUNTANTS WILL GO OVER THE RECORDS WITH YOU!

THE BANK EXAMINERS TOLD ME WHAT YOU'VE DONE IN THE PAST FEW MONTHS, HOW YOU TRIED TO SAVE THE STORE-- PUT IN YOUR LAST CENT OF SAVINGS!

IT WAS THE LEAST I COULD DO, GARY-- AFTER ALL I'D DONE TO DESTROY IT! BUT THAT'S ALL OVER! I'LL GO NOW! YOU'VE SEEN THE LAST OF ME!

MARGOT, WAIT! THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO SAY!

MARGOT, I'LL HAVE A WORLD OF WORK HERE! AND I'LL NEED A SECRETARY TO HELP ME! NOT JUST TO TAKE DICTATION BUT SOMEONE TO WHOM RESPONSIBILITY IS A SERIOUS THING... TO WHOM THE STORE MEANS AS MUCH AS TO ME!

ALL RIGHT, GARY! IF YOU NEED ME, I'LL STAY!

I'D DO ANYTHING TO BE NEAR YOU AGAIN, MY DARLING... TO KNOW THE HOPE THAT ONE DAY I MAY FIND MY WAY INTO YOUR ARMS ONCE MORE!



THE GOOD FIXER

By Ruth Sterling



MARIAN JONAS hurried from work to the brownstone house where she lived with her mother. There was so much to do before Raymond came. She had to shower, change her clothes and prepare the food.

Tonight was special. Finally, after months, Raymond had agreed to come for dinner. Marian would prove to him that she could cook. Maybe then he might propose. She would show Raymond that dancing and parties weren't important. Raymond must be made to realize she wasn't like other girls—interested in him just because he was darkly handsome and had a lot of money. She wanted to settle down with a home and a family.

Her mother came in from the kitchen. "Marian dear, the roaster won't work. I plugged it in and nothing happened."

Marian sank into a chair and groaned. "Oh no—of all times. Well, we'll use the oven, or isn't that fixed either?"

"No, not yet," her mother said calmly.

"Oh Mother," Marian cried, exasperated. Her mother was sweet, but so undependable in a crisis. And this was a crisis. The wonderful dinner she had planned would be ruined.

"Maybe we could serve cold cuts," Mrs. Jonas suggested pleasantly.

Marian stared at her mother. "You can't invite a man to dinner and serve cold cuts. Not Raymond, anyway."

"Frankly," Mrs. Jonas said, "I don't think he deserves anything to eat at all. He's always breaking appointments, or coming late, or never calling."

Marian took a deep breath, her pretty mouth set in a firm line. "You may not care for Raymond, but I do. We've got to fix that roaster."

Mrs. Jonas shrugged. "If it means that much to you why don't you ask Pete Beldon, that nice young man who moved in a month ago down the hall? He said he was an engineer of electricity."

"An electrical engineer," Marian corrected her sharply. "I hardly know him, but he does seem rather pleasant." She glanced in the mirror. Her hair wasn't combed and her tiny nose

had a high shine. But that could wait. The roaster must be fixed first.

She rang his bell and stamped her foot impatiently. In a few minutes a lanky young man smoking a pipe opened the door. "Aha," he said, seizing her hand and practically dragging her into his apartment, "come in. I want to test this on you. Sit here." Marian looked around the room cluttered with wires, dials, tools and strange-looking boxes. Pete clamped a pair of earphones on her head. "What do you hear?"

"Nothing," Marian said. "Look, I came to ask you a favor—"

Pete turned a dial. "Now do you hear anything?"

"Noise. Please—this is a terrible emergency and I need—"

Pete removed the earphones. "Noise, she says. Young lady, do you know what you've been listening to? The music of the spheres. I have finally created an instrument sensitive enough to span the universe—to contact—"

"Would you please fix my roaster?" Marian begged. "I've got a guest for dinner and it won't work."

Pete looked at her, then a grin widened over his face. "Sure, man must eat as well as create. Lead the way."

"Thank goodness," Marian thought as she took him back to her apartment.

Pete examined the roaster carefully. "It just needs a new plug," he said. "I'll be right back."

"Isn't he nice?" Mrs. Jonas said when he left.

"If he can fix this, he is," Marian answered, glancing at the clock.

In a moment Pete was back. Marian had to admire the speed with which he worked. "Okay, good as new. What are you planning to cook?"

"Steak," Marian said hastily. "Thank you very much." She wished Pete would leave so she could dress and set the table, but he lingered.

"Steak? That must be a pretty special guest coming."

"He is," Marian said abruptly. Pete nodded

and went out, numbling something that sounded like, "Mighty lucky fellow."

"Now wasn't that sweet of him?" Mrs. Jonas asked. "We should have invited him, too. Poor boy, looked like he could use a home-cooked meal."

Marian snorted. Sometimes, Mother was impossible. "And," she said sarcastically, "what would Raymond think?"

"It might do him good," her mother said curtly.

"Oh, look at the time!" Marian gasped and flew into the bathroom and turned on the shower. In a half hour she felt fresh and pretty. Humming and excited, she took out the best linen and silverware. As a final touch she added flowers and the silver candlesticks. Everything was ready, but where was Raymond?

"He's late," Mrs. Jonas said, "as usual."

Marian paced about nervously. The salad was beginning to wilt. The candles were burning low.

Finally the phone rang. Marian rushed to answer.

"Honey," Raymond said, "I'm sorry. Won't be able to make it. Some last minute business. But say, there's a dance at the country club tomorrow evening. We'll have fun."

Marian barely heard him. The tears welled up in her and she was afraid she would cry right into the telephone.

"I knew it," Mrs. Jonas said as she watched her daughter's face. "I felt it in my bones. Well, there's no sense having good food go to waste. I'll invite that young man in to eat with us. Is that all right with you, dear?"

"I don't care," Marian said glumly.

Pete was delighted. "Haven't had such good food since I left home," he managed to say between mouthfuls. You're an excellent cook, Miss Jonas."

"Her first name is Marian," her mother said, smiling.

The next evening Pete knocked on the door. "I'd like to repay you for that delicious dinner. I have two tickets to the symphony concert Saturday evening. Would you like to join me?"

Marian shook her head. She loved good music, but it would be wrong to go with Pete while she was dating Raymond. "Thanks anyway," she said, closing the door on Pete. Raymond was coming soon and she had to dress.

An hour later, he showed up, looking as handsome as ever. "Okay, honey, let's get going. There's going to be quite a crowd at the dance."

Marian hesitated. They were alone. Her

Mother had gone out to play bridge with some friends. "Raymond, let's sit here for a while. Somehow, I never get a chance to talk to you. We're always either dancing or going to shows. I want to have a serious talk."

"Talk?" Raymond looked uncomfortable. "What's there to talk about, honey?"

"About us. About the future."

Raymond glanced at his wristwatch. "Some other time. The gang is waiting—"

"No," Marian said firmly, "now."

Suddenly the lights went out. The apartment was in utter darkness. Marian groped for the wall switch. No light. "Oh dear," she said, "Raymond, do something."

"Of course," his arms were around her, "how's about a kiss."

"No," Marian tried to push him off. "I didn't mean that."

"Aw, honey, don't be shy—the other girls enjoy the darkness. What's wrong with you, anyway?"

"The other girls?" Marian heard her voice rise in anger. "And I thought you—"

"Thought what, honey?" Raymond asked softly.

Marian took a deep breath. "I thought you were in a hurry to get to the dance. Well . . . get going—alone. Goodbye."

He started for the door, but since he didn't know his way around in the darkness, he bumped into something. "Ouch," he shouted. Marian flung open the door into the darkened hallway. "This is the way out."

Raymond headed for the staircase and disappeared.

The door opposite her opened. "Say," she heard Pete call, "that you, Marian? Lights go out in your apartment too?"

"It's pitch black," she said.

"My fault. I was fooling around with some electrical equipment. Must have made a short circuit. Did I hear someone yell?"

"Just a person I used to know."

"**S**ORRY to cause the trouble. Guess I'm not such a good fixer, after all. I'll run down to the basement and see if I can repair the damage."

"Oh Pete—" Marian called shyly.

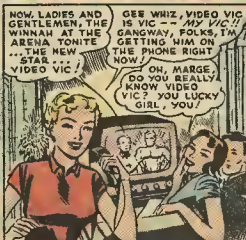
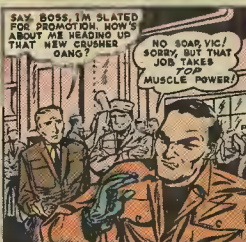
"Yes?"

"You are a good fixer. You fixed things better than you thought. Is the invitation still open for the concert?"

"It sure is," Pete said happily.

THE END

How 'BLACK BEAUTY' TURNS AN ALSO-RAN INTO "VIDEO VIC!"



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5 CABLE EXERCISER FREE!
(Worth 5.95 alone)

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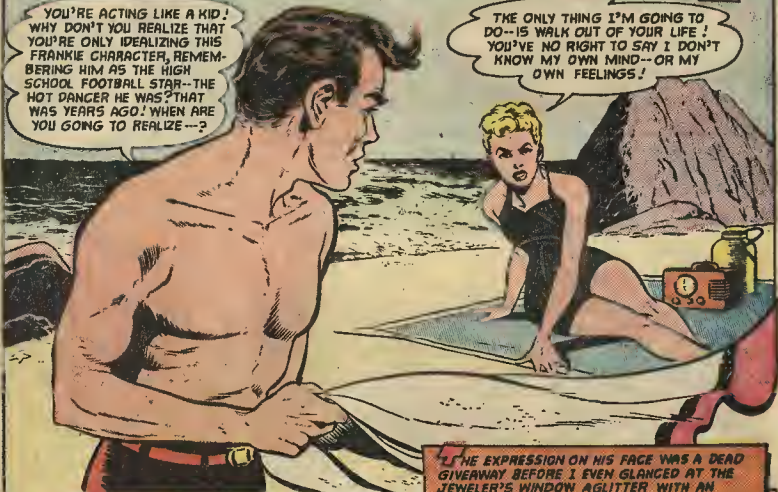
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MEMORY OF LOVE

FRANCIE DIDN'T STOP TO THINK ABOUT LEE--WHAT HE HAD MEANT TO HER! HOW HE'D HELPED HER FEEL NEEDED--DESIRED! EVERYTHING THAT HAD ONCE BEEN IMPORTANT SHE WAS CALLOUSLY DISCARDING FOR A MAN SHE HADN'T SEEN OR HEARD FROM IN FOUR YEARS!

YOU'RE ACTING LIKE A KID! WHY DON'T YOU REALIZE THAT YOU'RE ONLY IDEALIZING THIS FRANKIE CHARACTER, REMEMBERING HIM AS THE HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL STAR--THE HOT DANGER HE WAS? THAT WAS YEARS AGO! WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO REALIZE---

THE ONLY THING I'M GOING TO DO--IS WALK OUT OF YOUR LIFE! YOU'VE NO RIGHT TO SAY I DON'T KNOW MY OWN MIND--OR MY OWN FEELINGS!



THE EXPRESSION ON HIS FACE WAS A DEAD GIVEAWAY BEFORE I EVEN GLANCED AT THE JEWELER'S WINDOW AGLITTER WITH AN ASSORTMENT OF RINGS!

LAYTON WAS A TYPICAL, MIDDLE-SIZED COMMUNITY--IN A WAY AS TYPICAL AS LEE COMERS, MY BOYFRIEND--A NICE, AVERAGE FELLOW WHO TAUGHT SCIENCE AT THE LOCAL JR. HIGH! WE HAD BEEN GOING TOGETHER FOR OVER A YEAR, AND BY NOW, WE WERE A COMBINATION JUST ABOUT TAKEN FOR GRANTED!

HI, LEE! WHY THE POST-HASTE CALL TO MEET YOU ON THIS PARTICULAR CORNER? GREAT MYSTERY?

LOOK AT THE PLACE BEHIND ME AND MAYBE YOU'LL GET THE GENERAL IDEA!



A CERTAIN FELLOW I KNOW IS PRAYING THAT A CERTAIN GIRL HE KNOWS WILL SAY YES TO BEING ENGAGED!



WILL YOU, FRANCIE?

WITH THE PRESSURE OF HIS HANDS UPON MY ARMS, AND HIS FACE CLOSE ENOUGH TO MINE FOR A KISS---MY THOUGHTS DISSOLVED, AS THEY ALWAYS DID DURING SUCH MOMENTS--TO MEMORIES OF FRANKIE, THE FIRST BOY I DATED--ADMANCED--KISSED!

YOU'RE GORGEOUS!
I'D SAY YOU OUGHT TO
BE IN PICTURES, EXCEPT
I'D RATHER HAVE YOU
HERE--! LIKE THIS!

OH--
FRANKIE!

WELL, BABY--I'M TAKING
OFF! JUST AS I TOLD YOU I
WOULD ONE DAY! THIS TOWN
CRAMPS MY STYLE! I'VE
GOT SOME BIG IDEAS
THAT CAN'T MISS!

WRITE ME,
FRANKIE...TELL
ME EVERYTHING
YOU'RE DOING!

I'LL WAGER I
KNOW WHAT YOU
TWO CAME TO MY
STORE FOR!

HONEY--HONEY, YOU DIDN'T
ANSWER ME YET! ARE YOU
GOING TO LET ME MAKE
THE ENGAGEMENT
OFFICIAL?

Y-YES,
LEE!

THIS PUBLIC DISPLAY
OF AFFECTION IS HOT
ETIQUETTE--BUT RIGHT
NOW I'M SO HAPPY--
THE WHOLE WORLD CAN
HAVE AN EYEFUL!

NO USE THINNING ABOUT
FRANKIE...HE'LL NEVER COME
BACK! HE'S NEVER EVEN
WRITTEN ONCE--NEVER
COME TO SEE HIS
OWN FOLKS!

SHORT MINUTES LATER, I HELD MY LEFT
HAND AND THE SMOOTH FINISHING OF
SILVER WAS SLIPPED UPON MY THIRD FINGER!
I WAS REMEMBERING THE CLASS RING
FRANKIE HAD ONCE PLACED UPON MY
FINGER!

--DARLING!

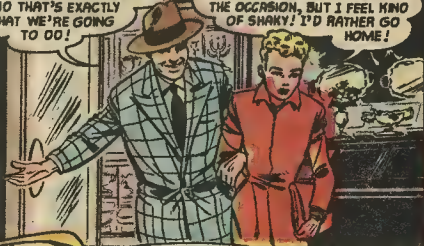
I'M GOING TO LOOK
THE OTHER WAY AND
CHECK MY STOCK, YOUNG
MAN--SO YOU CAN TAKE
ADVANTAGE OF THE
MOMENT!



I SURRENDERED TO THE SWEET, TENDER WARMTH OF HIS KISS! BUT EVEN AS I SHARED ITS RAPTURE--ALL THOUGHTS OF REAL LOVE WERE BOUND UP WITH FRANKIE BASS!

NOW WE OUGHT TO CELEBRATE--
I REALLY GO OUT ON THE TOWN!
AND THAT'S EXACTLY
WHAT WE'RE GOING
TO DO!

I-I'D LIKE TO, LEE--AND I
REALLY DON'T LIKE TO SPOIL
THE OCCASION, BUT I FEEL KIND
OF SHAKY! I'D RATHER GO
HOME!



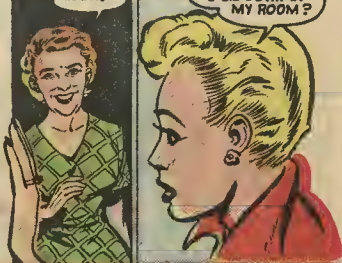
GOSH, HONEY--I'M SORRY!
I GUESS IT HAS BEEN A LOT OF
EXCITEMENT! BUT NO MATTER--
WE'LL HAVE YEARS AND
YEARS TO CELEBRATE!



I WAS
FEELING
MORE
MOODY THAN
USUAL, AND
I DIDN'T
STOP TO
RATIONALIZE
IT! I ONLY
KNEW I
WANTED TO
BE ALONE
SUDDENLY!
AS SOON AS
I ENTERED
THE HOUSE,
SOMETIME
AFTER, MOTHER
NOTICED THE
GLITTER ON MY
FINGER, AND...

OH--LEE'S GIVEN YOU
AN ENGAGEMENT RING!
ISN'T THAT WONDERFUL!
I'VE BEEN HOPING HE WAS
THE BOY FOR YOU, DEAR!
LET ME HAVE A CLOSER
LOOK!

I--I WILL,
MOTHER, BUT
RIGHT NOW
I FEEL UPSET!
DO YOU MIND IF
I LIE DOWN IN
MY ROOM?



OF COURSE NOT, MY DEAR!
I UNDERSTAND! IT'S A BIG AND
IMPORTANT EVENT AND IT TAKES A
BIT OF GETTING USED TO! I REMEMBER
I CRIED LIKE A BABY WHEN YOUR
FATHER GAVE ME A RING!



IT WAS STRANGE THAT NOW, WHEN I HAD MADE UP
MY MIND TO GIVE UP FRANKIE--THAT THE LONGING
FOR HIM BECAME THE MOST AGUTE!

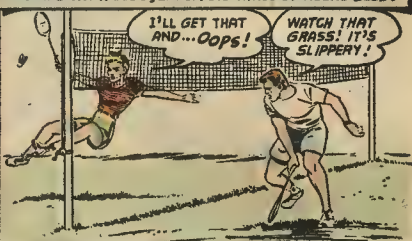
HE WAS EVERYTHING I EVER
WANTED IN A MAN! STRONG AND
HANDSOME--AND WITH THE AMBITION
TO BEAT THE WORLD!





...SOB... SOB...
OH, FRANKIE...
SOB...

BUT SEVERAL DAYS LATER, LEE AND I RESUMED THE SAME OLD RELATIONSHIP AND THE TROUBLED DREAMS RECEDED TEMPORARILY INTO THE BACKGROUND! IT WAS FUN BEING ALIVE WHEN THE SUN WAS GOLDEN YELLOW--- AND THE SKY A SOLID, UNRUFFLED MASS OF AZURE BLUE!



I'LL GET THAT
AND...Oops!

WATCH THAT
GRASS! IT'S
SLIPPERY!



YOU'RE EVEN
BEAUTIFUL
WHEN YOU
FALL!

---AND YOU LIE
SO GRACEFULLY!
WITHOUT
BATTING
AN EYE!

I THINK THAT'S A REQUISITE
FOR A PERFECT HUSBAND--
IF IT'S ONLY TO REASSURE
HIS WIFE OF HER LOVELINESS!
AND I AIM TO BE... YOUR
PERFECT HUSBAND! WHAT'S
THE MATTER, HONEY? YOU'RE
SUDDENLY
PALE!

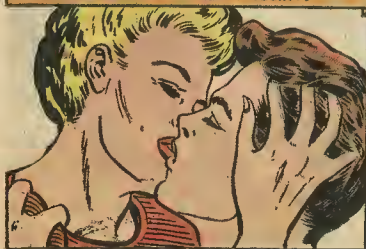


EVERY TIME THERE WAS A REFERENCE TO MARRIAGE, SOMETHING INSIDE ME RECALLED! IT WAS LIKE A STUBBORN CHILD, WANTING ONLY THE ONE THING IT COULDN'T HAVE---AND WANTING IT FOR THAT SAME ALONE! LEE SET ME DOWN WITH CONCERN!

HONEY--I KNOW WHAT YOU'VE BEEN THINKING! I'VE KNOWN IT FOR A LONG TIME! COULDN'T HELP IT, SPEAKING TO YOUR GIRL FRIENDS! BUT BELIEVE ME-- IT'S PART OF GROWING UP, THAT'S ALL!

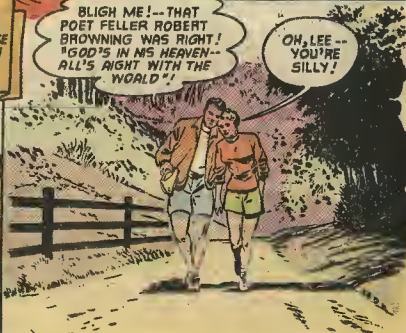


I TOLD MYSELF HE COULDN'T REALLY UNDERSTAND-- BUT THERE WAS NO SENSE MAKING A POINT OF IT! AND WHEN HE DREW ME CLOSE, I SOUGHT HIS EMBRACE EAGERLY, TO HIDE MY BRIMMING TEARS! BUT ONCE IN HIS ARMS, HIS ARDENT LIPS UPON MINE--MY MIND WAS SEALED TO ALL OTHER THOUGHTS!



BLIGH ME!-- THAT
POET FELLER ROBERT
BROWNING WAS RIGHT!
"GOD'S IN HIS HEAVEN--
ALL'S RIGHT WITH THE
WORLD!"

OH, LEE--
YOU'RE
SILLY!



MAYBE EVERYTHING WOULD HAVE BEEN ALL RIGHT, HADN'T THE NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS BROUGHT WHAT THEY HAD--BUT I DOUBT IT! ALL THROUGH THE YEARS I WOULD PROBABLY HAVE BEEN REMEMBERING FRANKIE AND HATING A PERVERSE FATE THAT HAD TORN US APART! ANYWAY, A WEEK LATER...

HI, HELEN-- HOW COME YOU TOOK TIME OFF FROM THE SHOP TO DROP BY?

BECAUSE I'VE GOT NEWS-- BIG NEWS! DO YOU KNOW WHO'S COMING BACK TO TOWN?

N--NO! I DON'T! TELL ME, HELEN!

OH, COME ON-- YOU CAN GUESS! --FRANKIE!

I KNEW IT--SENSED IT, THE MOMENT I SAW THE EXCITEMENT ON HER FACE! BUT I WOULDN'T SAY IT--I DIDN'T DARE HOPE IT! WHEN SHE SPOKE HIS NAME--I FELT MYSELF GO LIMP WITH RISING EMOTION! I FOUGHT TO CONCEAL IT!

W-HOW DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS? MAYBE IT'S JUST A RUMOR!

OH, NO--! HIS MOTHER CAME INTO THE SHOP, TOLD ME SHE GOT A LETTER FROM HIM! HE'LL BE IN ON THE TWENTY-FOURTH!

I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT LIKE TO KNOW! I'VE GOT TO BE GETTING BACK NOW!

FRANKIE IS COMING BACK! HE'S COMING BACK! AND IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF WEEKS!

I SIGHED, CLOSED MY EYES AND LEANED MY HEAD FORWARD AGAINST THE WINDOW PANE...ALL AT ONCE, I WAS SEEING FRANKIE ON THE DAY HE'D RETURN! I COULD SEE HIM TALLER, HANDSOMER THAN WHEN HE LEFT--WITH A WARDROBE LIKE A MOVIE STAR'S! AND THE CAR HE'D COME IN--IT WOULD BE SLEEK, SHINY, LUXURIOUS!

THAT FRANKIE BASSIK--I ALWAYS KNEW HE WOULD AMOUNT TO SOMETHING!

THE YOUNG WOMAN WHO GETS HIM SURE WILL BE LUCKY FOR THE REST OF HER DAYS!

MOM--DAD! I'VE JUST BOUGHT THIS PLACE FOR YOU! SURE--I'VE BEEN AWAY A LONG TIME, BUT I'M GOING TO MAKE UP FOR IT NOW!

YES--THAT
WOULD BE LIKE
FRANKIE, WARM-
HEARTED--
GENEROUS--
CONSIDERATE!
EVERYONE
AROUND HIM
WOULD SHARE
HIS PROSPERITY!
AND THEN HE'D
THROW A BIG
PARTY, AND I'D
COME UP TO
MEET HIM WITH
THE OTHERS!
HE'D GREET ME
WITH EQUAL DEF-
ERENCE AS THE
OTHERS, BUT HIS
EYES WOULD
TELL ME
DIFFERENTLY!

WELL--IT SURE IS
GOOD TO HAVE YOU
BACK IN TOWN,
FRANKIE!

FRANCIE--I--IT'S
REALLY YOU!

HE WANTS TO SEE ME LATER--
WHEN ALL THE OTHERS HAVE
GONE!

I'D WAIT ANXIOUSLY AS THE MINUTES OF THE EVENING
TICKED AWAY--AND I'D LEAVE, SAY GOOD NIGHT
WITH THE OTHERS! BUT THEN--OH, THEN, I'D RETURN!

--FRANKIE!

I WAS AFRAID YOU
WOULDN'T COME!

HOW COULD YOU
THINK THAT!
OH, FRANKIE!

IT'S BEEN SO LONG!
WE WERE JUST KIDS!
I WONDERED WHETHER
YOU'D STILL CARE!

I LOVE YOU, FRANKIE--
I ALWAYS HAVE, EVERY
MINUTE YOU WERE
AWAY!

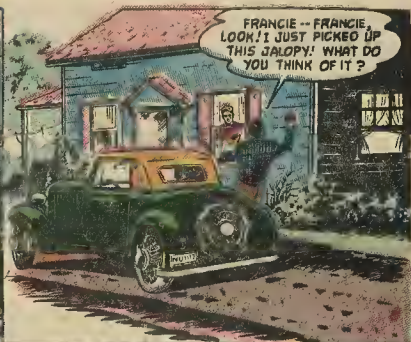
AND THEN WE'D KISS--AND THE
KISS WOULD BE SWEET, FERVENT,
TENDER--MAKING UP FOR ALL
THE WAITING AND DREAMING
AND HOPING!

HE'S REALLY GOING TO COME
BACK! IT WILL ALL BE JUST
LIKE THAT, I KNOW IT!

MY DARLING...
MY OWN
DARLING!

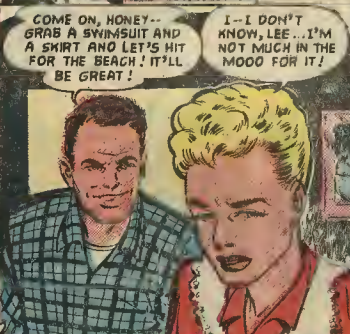


FRANCIE-- I'VE BEEN CALLING YOU! OH!N'T YOU HEAR ME? LEE IS OUTSIDE, IN FRONT OF THE HOUSE! IT'S A WONDER YOU DIDN'T HEAR HIS VOICE EITHER!



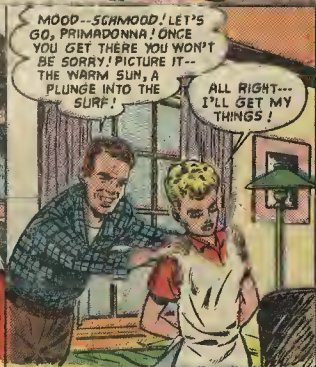
FRANCIE -- FRANCIE, LOOK! I JUST PICKED UP THIS JALOPY! WHAT DO YOU THINK OF IT?

IT WAS IRONIC THAT LEE SHOULD APPEAR THEN, TOUSLED, DRESSED IN KNOCKABOUT CLOTHES -- AND STANDING BESIDE A BATTERED HEAP-- WHILE EVEN NOW, THE VISION OF FRANKIE'S TRIUMPHANT RETURN STILL LINGERED IN MY MIND. HE ENTERED THE HOUSE, AND...



COME ON, HONEY-- GRAB A SWIMSUIT AND A SKIRT AND LET'S HIT FOR THE BEACH! IT'LL BE GREAT!

I--I DON'T KNOW, LEE... I'M NOT MUCH IN THE MOOD FOR IT!



MOOD-- SCAMOOD! LET'S GO, PRIMA DONNA! ONCE YOU GET THERE YOU WON'T BE SORRY! PICTURE IT-- THE WARM SUN, A PLUNGE INTO THE SURF!

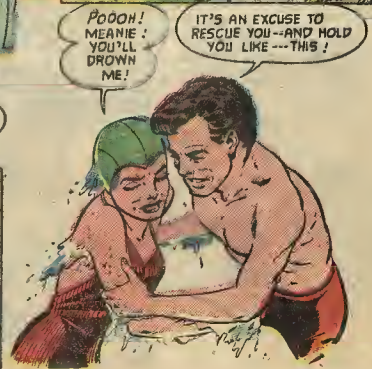
ALL RIGHT-- I'LL GET MY THINGS!

IT WAS A LITTLE OUT OF SEASON-- AND THE AIR WAS CRISP AND HAD A WINNY TANG OF ONCOMING AUTUMN, BUT THE WATER WAS WARM AND REFRESHING WHEN WE REACHED THE BEACH A HALF HOUR LATER! AS USUAL, LEE HAD ME LAUGHING!



DOWN YOU GO, MERMAID! INTO THE MURKY DEPTHS OF FATHER NEPTUNE'S DEN!

NO, LEE-- DON'T DUCK ME!

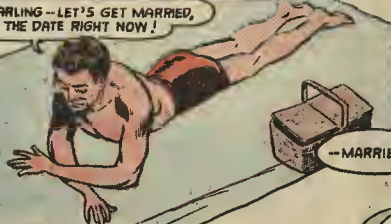


POOOH! MEANIE! YOU'LL DROWN ME!

IT'S AN EXCUSE TO RESCUE YOU--AND HOLD YOU LIKE ---THIS!

AND SOON WE WERE LOLLING IN THE CLEAN, WHITE-BLEACHED SAND, WATCHING THE SEA GULLS WAFT THROUGH THE AIR! THEN, LEE BECAME SUDDENLY TENDER, AND....

DARLING--LET'S GET MARRIED, SET THE DATE RIGHT NOW!



--MARRIED!



HERE WE WERE SPRAYLED ON THE SAND LIKE TWO IDLE BEACHCOMBERS--AND IT WAS HERE THAT LEE PROPOSED MARRIAGE! I FOUND MYSELF A PART OF ANOTHER SCENE, UPON A LUXURIOUS TERRACE--BEDECKED WITH FLOWERS--WITH FRANKIE BESIDE ME!

OH...IT'S AN ENCHANTED WONDERLAND! I'VE NEVER KNOWN ANYTHING TO BE SO BEAUTIFUL!

IT HAD TO BE--I'VE BEEN ARRANGING IT FOR MONTHS, PLANNING EVERY DETAIL! IT'S THE SETTING FOR A VERY IMPORTANT MOMENT!



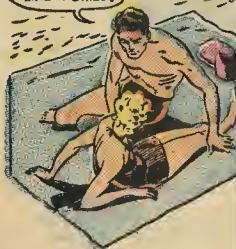
MY DEAREST--I WANT TO MAKE YOU MY WIFE! WILL YOU MARRY ME?

YES--OH, YES, I WILL!



I WAS STARTLED OUT OF MY REVERIE BY THE SUDDEN UNFAMILIAR SHARPNESS IN LEE'S VOICE! HIS FACE WAS STRANGELY PALE.

FRANKIE! SNAP OUT OF IT! I KNOW WHO YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT! I'M ASKING YOU TO MARRY ME!--YOU'RE ACTING LIKE A CHILD!



DON'T YOU REALIZE THAT YOU'RE ONLY IDEALIZING THIS FRANKIE CHARACTER, REMEMBERING HIM AS THE HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL STAR--THE HOT DANGER HE WAS! THAT WAS YEARS AGO! IF YOU...

YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO INFER THAT I DON'T KNOW MY OWN MIND!



I'VE IGNORED THIS ATTITUDE IN ALL ALONG--BECAUSE I EXPECT YOU WOULD GROW OUT OF IT, LEARN TO THINK LIKE A GROWN WOMAN! BUT I SEE I WAS WRONG!

Y--YOU'RE JEALOUS OF HIM THAT'S WHY YOU'RE SAYING THESE THINGS!



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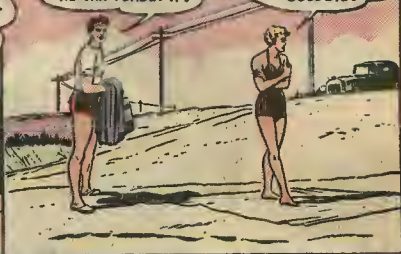
OUR WORDS BECAME LOUDER AND MORE VEHEMENT-- DESTROYING ALL WE HAD FOLDED DURING THE PAST MONTHS IN A MATTER OF MINUTES! THE LEE I HAD ALWAYS KNOWN, WHO HAD ALWAYS PAMPERED MY WHIMS-- WAS GONE! HERE WAS ANOTHER MAN-- FORCEFUL, ANGERED, INTRACTABLE!

I'VE GOT MYSELF A JOB APPOINTMENT ON A NEW GOVERNMENT ATOM PROJECT! I WANTED YOU TO COME ALONG WITH ME AS MY WIFE! BUT I SEE NOW THAT WOULD BE A RESPONSIBILITY WAY ABOVE YOUR HEAD! IN A WAY-- I'M GLAD I FOUND THIS OUT NOW!



IF YOU WANT ME TO DROP YOU OFF AT YOUR PLACE-- COME ON! AS FOR THE REST-- WE CAN FORGET IT!

NEVER MIND TAKING ME HOME-- I CAN FIND MY WAY! --GOODBYE!



I REMAINED ON THE BEACH FOR A LONG TIME AFTER HE LEFT, AND TO TURN MY HEART AWAY FROM THE GRIEF THAT WEIGHTED IT-- I OPENED MY MIND ANEW TO DREAMS-- DREAMS OF FRANKIE! THE DAY FOR HIS EXPECTED ARRIVAL WAS DRAWING NEAR! THEN ONE EVENING...

W-HO IS THERE?

YOUR MOTHER LET ME IN, FRANKIE! I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU FOR HOURS!



FRANKIE! FRANKIE, IT'S YOU!



HERE IN THE SHADOWS, I KNEW ONLY HIS VOICE! BUT WHEN HIS ARMS HELD ME-- AND HIS LIPS HARSHLY CLOSED UPON MINE-- SOMETHING DULLED INSIDE ME! I TURNED ON THE LIGHT AND SAW HIM! HEAVY, SLOVENLY-- BALDING-- AND CRUDE!

I-I DON'T UNDERSTAND!

MY OLD MAN'S INSURANCE CAME DUE AND HE'S GOT DOUGH! I DON'T WANT IT TO LOOK LIKE THAT'S WHAT I CAME FOR! IF YOU LEND ME A FEW BUCKS TO CLEAN MYSELF UP, BUY A NEW SUIT...

FRANKIE-- I-I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M STANDING BEFORE YOU!

YEAH-- A LOT OF WATER'S RUN UNDER THE BRIDGE ALL RIGHT! TELL YOU WHY I DROPPED IN-- I GOT A COUPLE OF BIG DEALS PENDING AND I NEED SOME DOUGH!





BUT IF YOU SHOULD TAKE HIS MONEY A-AND LOSE IT!

AMH...THEY'VE BEEN GETTING ALONG WITHOUT THAT DOUGH FOR YEARS! IT WON'T MAKE MUCH DIFFERENCE! I GOT A REAL ANGLE FOR THAT LITTLE BANKROLL!



MY HANDS WERE TREMBLING! INSIDE ME, I FELT AS THOUGH MY HEART HAD CEASED ITS BEATING! I GAVE HIM THE MONEY. THEN...

THIS IS GREAT, BABY! I FIGURED I COULD COUNT ON YOU! MAYBE WHEN I HIT A BIG ONE-- I'LL INVITE YOU DOWN TO THE CITY FOR A COUPLE OF MONTHS OF FUN! SO LONG!



...SOB...OH, SOB... W-WHAT AN IDIOT I'VE BEEN! AND ALL THIS TIME I...OH, SOB... I'VE GOT TO CALL LEE--RIGHT AWAY!



LEE--? OH, MRS. KILER-- I WANT LEE! HE'S WHAT? HE'S LEFT FOR THE DEPOT! OH, NO! IT'S THAT JOB OUT OF TOWN!

I FELT AS THOUGH I WANTED TO DIE-- TO STOP THE TORMENTING THOUGHTS THAT WERE MERCILESSLY TEARING AT ME! IF HE'D LEFT--HE'D NEVER SEE ME AGAIN! HE'D NEVER UNDERSTAND! I DROVE TO THE DEPOT--PRAYING ALL THE WAY! THEN I SAW HIM...



LEE--OH, LEE! WAIT! WAIT!



...SOB...OH, LEE...I'VE MADE SUCH A TERRIBLE MISTAKE! DON'T TURN ME OUT OF YOUR LIFE! WRITE TO ME... GIVE ME ANOTHER CHANCE! MAYBE YOU'LL FEEL AS YOU ONCE DID... SOB...

TEARS BLURRED MY EYES-- I STRAINED TO SEE THE EXPRESSION UPON HIS FACE BUT I COULD NOT! WAS IT PITY-- CONTEMPT-- OR--? THEN, I FELT MYSELF DRAWN UP INTO HIS ARMS!--THE TRAIN WAS MOVING!



I HAVE SOME FRIENDS IN THE TOWN WE'RE GOING TO. YOU CAN STAY WITH THEM UNTIL YOU BUY YOUR TROUSSEAU FOR OUR WEDDING!

LEE--WHAT ARE YOU DOING? I HAVE NO CLOTHING-- NO LUGGAGE WITH ME!

THE END



Mrs. Ruth Long

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Your *NEW* Real, LIVE **MINIATURE DOG**

I'll be happy to send you without you paying a penny, this lovable, young, miniature DOG that is so tiny you can carry it in your pocket or hold it in one hand, yet it barks and is a reliable watch dog as well as a pet. You can keep it in a shoe box and enjoy many amusing hours teaching it tricks . . . active, healthy, intelligent and clean. Simply hand out only 20 get-acquainted coupons to friends and relatives to help us get that many new customers as per our premium letter. I enjoy my own lively, tiny dog so much. It is such wonderful company that I'm sure you'll simply love one yourself.

Please send me your favorite snapshot, photo or Kodak picture when writing for your Miniature Dog. We will make you a beautiful 5x7 inch enlargement in a handsome "Movietone" frame SO YOU CAN TELL YOUR FRIENDS about our bargain hand-colored enlargements when handing out the get-acquainted coupons free. Just mail me your favorite snapshot, print or negative NOW and pay the postman only 19c plus postage when your treasured enlargement arrives and I'll include the "Movietone" frame at no extra cost. LIMIT of 2 to any one person. Your original returned with your enlargement and frame. Also include the COLOR OF HAIR AND EYES with each picture, so I can also give you our bargain offer on a second enlargement artfully hand colored in oils for natural beauty, sparkle and life, like we have done for thousands of others.

I'm so anxious to send you a miniature dog that I hope you will send me your name, address and favorite snapshot, right away and get your 20 enlargement coupons
Mrs. Ruth Long, Gift Manager.

DEAN STUDIOS

Dept. X-412, 211 W. 7th St.
Des Moines 2, Iowa

Please
GIVE ME A HOME



**Supply Limited
○
SEND TODAY!**

MRS. RUTH LONG
DEAN STUDIOS, DEPT. X-412
211 W. 7TH ST., DES MOINES 2, IOWA

I would like to receive the miniature dog
Please send me premium letter and 20 coupons

Enclosed find _____ snapshot or negatives for enlarging. (Limit of two.)

Color _____ Color _____

Eyes _____ Eyes _____

Color _____ Color _____

Hair _____ Hair _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Up to a \$10 Portrait Studio Value Only \$1.

Any Photo Copied

20 BILLFOLD PHOTOS

\$1

Sent on Approval

Double-Weight, Silk Finish, Portrait Paper. Each (2½ x 3½ inch) PHOTO is beautifully DECKLE EDGED.

50 for only \$2

(Send No Money)

Just to get acquainted we will make you these NEW artistic, BILLFOLD PHOTOGRAPHS that are the rage for exchanging with school mates, as gifts and enclosures with greeting cards or in correspondence. **SEND NO MONEY**, just enclose your favorite snapshot or any size photo for 20 or 50 BILLFOLD (Wallet) SIZE PHOTOS (one pose) suitable for

framing and keepsakes. Used by thousands of students, teachers, job seekers, parents, movie stars and others. Original returned with your order. Pay postman on arrival plus a few cents for our C.O.D. and postage or enclose the money and we prepay. **3-day service**. Portrait studio quality and satisfaction guaranteed. Please send within 15 days to

MOVYLAND STUDIOS Dept. 19, 211 W. 7th St., DES MOINES 2, IOWA

new figure mold HIDE-A-WAIST

17 Sensational Features

Streamline Your Waist.

Hide Bulges

Say "good-bye" to that unbecoming tummy bulge and clumsy waistline . . . AND instead . . . enjoy what you need most for your figure with HIDE-A-WAIST. Wear it and presto-chango — like magic you have graceful alluring curves. The unwanted bulge is evenly and comfortably banished. There are 17 sectional features that effect flattering curves. Keeps you smoothly shapely no matter what angle . . . sit, bend, stand or walk with comfortable, even grace. The secret of glamorous, stylish, women is to look graceful and alluring with a thinned waist line.

ADJUSTABLE To Tailor-Made Fit

The adjustable features allow you to get the custom fit perfection, comfort and attractiveness of a tailor fit. It's practi-

cally made to order for your figure. Gives you poise and posture. The 17 sections automatically mold your figure.

You get the support you need with unbelievable comfort. The specially designed concave effect permits HIDE-A-WAIST to adapt itself to your own diaphragm. You've never seen anything like it. You've never enjoyed so much freedom, comfort and style in anything else you've worn. The four extra-length detachable garters complete HIDE-A-WAIST. Comfortable too, without garters.

BEAUTIFUL IN YOUR HAND EXQUISITE ON YOUR FORM

You'll marvel at the value and beauty when you see your new HIDE-A-WAIST . . . BUT . . . when you put it on and see your new self, you'll be the happiest girl in the world. You'll look as thin and graceful as a sixteen-year-old nymph. Order your HIDE-A-WAIST now. It's new and not available in stores. Order direct without risk. You must be 100% delighted or we refund your money. Comes in sizes up to 40. The introductory price is indeed a bargain. Sizes up to 34 only \$2.98, plus postage. Sizes 35 and over One Dollar extra. (50c extra for the four extra-length detachable adjustable garters.)

FEATURES

Galore

17 Sectional Features . . . Streamline Waistline . . . Adjustable . . . Washable — made of Leno Laster, satin-faced rayon. Fully guaranteed. Lightweight. Cool — Ventilated. Will not wrinkle or ride up. Sizes 20 to 40.

You will look charmingly chic in your new Hide-A-Waist. Your stylish waistline will add new glamour to your favorite frocks — you will walk with an "air" of satisfaction and poise



HIDE-A-WAIST

Back View

10 DAY TRIAL FREE!

NOTE Fashion has emphasized the streamlined waist. Be up to the minute when you parade your pretty self . . . order your HIDE-A-WAIST now! Send direct to us for your HIDE-A-WAIST today. Wear it 10 days FREE and, if not delighted, return for prompt refund of full purchase price. Act at once, while this introductory offer is open. Just fill in coupon and drop it in the mail. We ship C.O.D. plus postage. But hurry coupon.

The S.J. Wegman Co.

35 Wilbur ST. Lyndbrook, N.Y.

Dept. 574-H

Rush my new HIDE-A-WAIST three-in-one at once. If I am not thrillingly satisfied I will return it after 10-day FREE trial for prompt refund of full purchase price.

Size . . . (waist size in inches).

Also send . . . sets of extra-length detachable and adjustable garters at only 50c for set of four.

☐ Send C.O.D. I will pay postman on delivery plus a few cents postage.

☐ I enclose payment. The S. J. Wegman Co. will pay postage.

NAME

ADDRESS

ONLY

98

2 FOR \$5.85

We'll Send a Box of Christmas Cards

To All Who Want **EXTRA MONEY!**

Make \$50 to \$300 and Even More In Your Spare Time...

It's Fun Too!... Lots of Folks Do It So Easily with

Wallace Brown Christmas Cards

Why not do as thousands of other folks do? No need to wish for extra cash to buy the things you want. You can make money so easily just by showing the famous, balanced assortments of beautiful Wallace Brown Christmas Cards to your friends, neighbors, relatives, co-workers, fellow church and club members. They'll love this convenient way to order Christmas cards at home and they'll be delighted with the beauty, value and variety offered them. In this big notionally famous line of over 50 money-makers are the two shown here... the sensational, big-value 21-card "Feature" Christmas Assortment and the beautiful Velour on Parchment Christmas Assortment. They sell on sight for only \$1.00 each and you make up to 30¢ profit on each box! Mail the coupon NOW!

Big Line of Over 50 Thrilling Money-Makers!

You need no experience and you have so much to offer to bring you extra cash. There are exciting Christmas Assortments like the luxurious Religious Scripture-Text, the delightful Christmas Angels, sparkling, new "Tell" Jewel Scenes, gay and clever Merry Christmas Humorous, breathtaking Winter Magic Photochromes... Gift Wrappings and Ribbons too! In addition, a complete line of lovely Everyday cards for Birthdays, Get Well and other occasions. Also Children's Books, Imported Napkins, Stationery, and many novelty Gift Items! They all spell **EXTRA MONEY** for you!

SEND NO MONEY to Get Actual Samples

See for yourself how much money you'll make. Mail Coupon TODAY for "Feature" 21 Card Christmas Assortment on approval and FREE samples of low priced name-imprinted Personal Christmas Cards. We'll also include FREE, our beautiful, big, full color catalog of entire line to start you making extra money immediately. **CLUBS, ORGANIZATIONS**—Raise money! Fill your treasury with cash by taking orders for Wallace Brown Cards and Gift Items from members and friends. Check coupon for details of Fund-Raising Plan and give name of organization.

WALLACE BROWN, INC. 11 EAST 26TH STREET
DEPT. 9-123, NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

Paste coupon on postcard or mail in envelope

WALLACE BROWN, INC. Dept. 9-123
11 East 26th Street, New York 10, N. Y.

Please rush "Feature" 21-Card Christmas Assortment on approval, FREE Samples of Personal Christmas Cards and FREE full-color illustrated Catalog of money-making line.

Name _____

Address _____

City & Zone _____ State _____

☐ Check for organization plan.



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Personals!

**ACTUAL SAMPLES
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Make even more money with four groups of outstanding Special Value Name-Imprinted Personal Christmas Cards... distinctive styling, low prices — for every purse and taste — Traditional, Religious, Cute, Formal, Currier & Ives... exclusive designs, luxury papers, including rich, deep-toned Suedes and genuine Parchment Cards. They sell on sight!

We Deliver to Your Customers AND WE PAY THE POSTAGE!